GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: November 16, 2006
Time: 2:30–4:30 p.m.
Place: MSR 130C

Attending: Kurt Baker, Randall Brown, Bret Carroll, Claudia Cortes, Diana Demetrulias, Chuck Floyd, David Lindsay, Mira Mayer, Peter Nelligan, Pamela Roe, Kenneth Schoenly (for Pamela Roe), Ramón Vega de Jesús, Shawn Young

Excused: Dennis Sayers, Arnold Schmidt, Andrew Wagner

Ex-Officio: William Covino, Amin Elmallah

Guests: Nael Aly, Steven Graham, Ashour Badal Mavaneh, Roger Pugh, John Sarraille

Peter Nelligan called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

I. Approval of Agenda. A motion was made by David Lindsay to approve the agenda with the following revisions:

- Move item IV A, Executive MBA Proposal, so it follows item IV B, School Counseling Program Revision.
- Defer items V B, Graduate Fellowships, and V C, MS Degree Minimum Units, to a future meeting.

The motion was seconded by Mira Mayer. The motion carried.

II. Approval of October 19, 2006 Minutes. A motion was made by Bret Carroll to approve the October 19, 2006 minutes. The motion was seconded by Chuck Floyd. The motion carried.

III. Information.

A. Provost Covino (time certain—2:30 p.m.). By way of introduction, Provost Covino discussed with the Council his experiences and views regarding graduate education. In his three months at CSU Stanislaus, Dr. Covino has recognized the university’s potential for further development of graduate studies. He discussed his background, including involvement in the development of a number of innovative, distinctive graduate programs that were interactive with the regions and communities in which they were established. He expressed interest in developing unique programs that would directly serve the needs of the region and suggested outreach into the community as a way to gain support for faculty and graduate student research initiatives (especially in research areas that would benefit the community). He supports the new Ed.D. program and feels it will have tremendous impact on the university. Overall, the Provost showed an active interest in graduate education and a willingness to support its growth on campus.

IV. Action.

A. School Counseling Program Revision (Kane)—Attachment #0607-6. Connie Kane presented the School Counseling Program revision, the addition of an internship option which would allow students to begin employment as school counselors while still completing the latter half of their master’s programs. This change comes in response to a drastically increased need in the region for school counselors; new state funding allowed schools to establish
approximately 30,000 new jobs in the field. The internship program at CSU Stanislaus will allow students to fill some of these positions in the region’s schools. The need for interns is expected to dwindle some as positions are filled but will always exist to some degree. The revision requires no additional funding and does not affect the curriculum of the program, but will likely increase enrollment. A motion to approve the School Counseling program revision was made by Chuck Floyd and seconded by Ramón Vega de Jesús; the motion carried.

B. Executive MBA Proposal (Elmallah, Aly) — Attachment #0607-5. Dean Elmallah introduced the proposed option, an Executive MBA targeted at middle-level managers/executives who want to move into top-level executive positions. The EMBA is an option within the MBA program and differs from a traditional MBA in that it aims at higher-level managers, is an accelerated 15-month program of intensive study, and is held off-site and entirely on weekends to accommodate student schedules. Students will move through the program in cohorts, and classes will be held in 8-week sessions. The program is to be offered as a self-support program through University Extended Education. Dr. Elmallah stressed that EMBA programs are rapidly becoming standard, and CSU Stanislaus needs to establish itself as a leader in educating the valley’s executives. The program will be distinctive in that courses will specifically address the needs of valley businesses.

The Council expressed concern that the answer to question number 13 on resources (page eight of the proposal) was vague. It was generally agreed that more information regarding resources and costs is needed before the proposal can be approved. The presenters agreed to develop the answer to this question for consideration at a future meeting.

Due to lack of time at this meeting for complete review of the program and course proposals, and in response to concern that the EMBA proposal stay on track for implementation in April, a special meeting of the Graduate Council will be scheduled for the month of December. Peter Nelligan will inform the Council of the date of that meeting via email.

Prior to the December meeting, the EMBA proposal presenters will submit a revised answer to question 13. Dr. Aly requested that Council members send any further concerns to him via email so they might also be addressed at the December meeting.

The item has been deferred until the December meeting.

V. Discussion

A. Faculty Compensation for Chairing Thesis/Project Committees (Brown). Deferred

B. Graduate Fellowships (Graham). Deferred

C. MS Degree Minimum Requirements (Graham). Deferred.

VI. Reports

A. Academic Senate Report (Nelligan). Deferred.

B. Associated Students Report (Cortes). Deferred.

C. Faculty Budget Advisory Committee Report—FBAC (Lindsay). Deferred.

D. Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Policy Committee (Baker). Deferred.

E. Vice Provost (Demetrulias). Deferred.

VII. Announcements. There were no announcements.

Ramon Vega de Jesus moved to adjourn the meeting; David Lindsay seconded the motion.

Peter Nelligan adjourned the meeting at 4:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Alyssa Mazzina